

SOLDIERS' HOME REEF

Clement J. Zablocki Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Milwaukee

This rock mound in the Menomonee River valley near Milwaukee was discovered by Increase A. Lapham, Wisconsin's first scientist, in the 1830s. In 1862, James Hall was the first to recognize and interpret this and several other nearby mounds as fossil reefs, making the group the first ancient reefs described in North America and among the first described anywhere in the world. Thomas C. Chamberlin used this reef and others in formulating his paleoecological and sedimentological model of reef development, which was published in his classic 1877 work, *Geology of Eastern Wisconsin*.